By the King.

A PROCLAMATION

Prohibiting the keeping of *Bartholomew* Fair, and *Sturbridge* Fair.

CHARLES R.

THe Kings moſt Excellent Majeſty, out of His Princely and Chriſtian care of His loving Subjects, that no good means of Providence may be neglected to ſtay the further ſpreading of the great Infection of the Plague, doth find it neceſſary to prevent all occaſions of publick Concourſe of His people for the preſent, till it ſhall pleaſe Almighty God of his goodneſs to ceaſe the violence of the Contagion, which is very far diſperſed into many parts of this Kingdom already: And therefore remembring that there are at hand Two Fairs of ſpecial note, unto which there is uſually extraordinary reſort out of all parts of the Kingdom; the one kept in Smithfield and Saint Bartholomews the Great, near the City of London, called Bartholomew Fair; and the other near Cambridge, called Sturbridge Fair; the holding whereof at the uſual times, would in all likelihood be the occaſion of further Danger and

Infection to other parts of the Land, which yet, by Gods mercy, ſtands clear and free; hath, with the Advice of his Privie Council, thought good by this open Declaration of his Pleaſure and neceſſary Commandment, not onely to admoniſh and require all his loving Subjects to forbear to reſort for this time to either of the ſaid two Fairs kept in Smithfield or Saint Bartholomew the Great, and at Sturbridge aforeſaid, or within the Liberties of the Univerſity and Town of Cambridge, or to any other Fairs within Fifty miles of the ſaid City of London; but alſo to enjoyn the Lords of the ſaid Fairs, and others Intereſſed in them, or any of them, That they all forbear to hold the ſaid Fairs, or any thing appertaining to them at the times accuſtomed, or at any other time, till by Gods goodneſs and mercy the Infection of the Plague ſhall ceaſe, or be ſo much diminiſhed, that His Majeſty ſhall give Order for holding them, upon pain of ſuch puniſhment, as for a Contempt ſo much concerning the univerſal ſafety of his people, they ſhall be adjudged to deſerve; which they muſt expect to be inflicted with all ſeverity. And to that purpoſe doth hereby further Charge and Enjoyn under like Penalty, all Citizens and Inhabitants of the ſaid City of London, that none of them ſhall repair to any Fairs held within any part of this Kingdom, until it ſhall pleaſe God to ceaſe the Infection now reigning amongſt them: His Majeſties intention being, and ſo hereby declaring Himſelf, That no Lord of any Fairs, or others Intereſted in the Profits thereof, ſhall by this neceſſary and temporary reſtraint receive any prejudice in the Right of his or their Fairs, or Liberties thereunto belonging; Any thing before mentioned notwithſtanding.

Given at Our Court at *Salisbury* the Seventh day of *Auguſt*, 1665. in the Seventeenth year of Our Reign.

God ſave the King.

LONDON,

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